

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 129

By McCormick

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate the award-winning and nationally acclaimed Hamilton County School system.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this body should pause to pay tribute to those educational institutions that, through the natural talents and unflagging commitment to academic excellence of their administration, faculty and staff members, have distinguished themselves in the classroom and in the academic arena; and

WHEREAS, Hamilton County Schools is one such exceptional school district that was recently awarded an \$8,000,000 grant from the Carnegie Corporation to promote high school reform, as well as a \$6,000,000 grant from The Public Education Foundation, as a local matching grant; and

WHEREAS, there is now evidence that these generous gifts are producing strong results; the school board, administration, faculty and staff of Hamilton County Schools have implemented innovative programs and teaching strategies that have raised students' levels of achievement, resulting in elevated test scores, higher rates of student promotions from the 9th to 10<sup>th</sup> grades and exemplary signs of significant progress; and

WHEREAS, a leader in education innovation, Hamilton County Schools received the National Career Academy Coalition's 2004 Career Academy Champion Award for outstanding achievement in the development and implementation of High School Career Academies; and

WHEREAS, these High School Career Academies received financial support from the Carnegie Corporation of America, The Public Education Foundation and Federal Smaller Learning Communities grants; and

WHEREAS, such innovative programs are just a part of the reform efforts undertaken by Hamilton County Schools that have resulted in higher promotion rates, a decrease in drop outs, and a marked increase in the college placement test scores of Hamilton County students among other improvements; and

WHEREAS, these noteworthy achievements are truly exemplary and, most appropriately, a tremendous source of pride for the school board, administration, faculty, staff, students and parents of the Hamilton County Schools community; and

WHEREAS, the dedication to excellence demonstrated by all the fine individuals affiliated with Hamilton County Schools is clearly deserving of the respect, admiration, and commendation of this legislative body; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor and congratulate the administration, faculty, staff and students of Hamilton County Schools on winning the prestigious 2004 Career Academy Champion Award, a true testimony to their continuing commitment to academic excellence.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we extend to them our best wishes for much continued success in the future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.